THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) In order to reduce the fertiliser subsidy burden on the exchequer, the Government, inter-alia, accepted the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on Fertiliser Pricing to decontrol the price, distribution and movement of phosphatic and potassic fertilisers.

(b) The record of stock position of fertilisers held by State institutional agencies is not maintained on day to day basis, but is maintained as at the beginning of each cropping season. A Statement indicating the estimates of stock of fertilisers held by State institutional agencies as on 1st October, 1992 is enclosed. (see below.)

(c) There is no hike in price by Government in average packing weight of nitrogenous fertilisers including Urea whereas the potassic and phosphatic fertilisers have been decontrolled.

Statement

('000 tonnes)

S. No.	Product	Quantity
1	2	3
1.	Urea	341.55
2.	Ammonium Sulphate	1.27
3.	Calcium Ammonium Nitrate	0.47
4.	Di-Ammonium Phosphate	186.08
5.	Single Super Phosphate	50.30
6.	Rock Phosphate	3.33
7.	Muriate of Potash	56.09
8.	*Complexes*	
	10 : 26 : 26	11.17
	12 : 32 : 16	13.99
	14 : 35 : 14	0.11
	15 : 15 : 15	6.59
	16 : 20 : 0	1.15
	17 : 17 : 17	20.81
	19 : 19 : 19	1.76
	20 : 20 : 0	23.23
	23 : 23 : 0	0.99
	28 : 28 : 0	6.03

Wheat Production

3803. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the agriculture scientists of the country have evolved new methodology and strategy to increase wheat production;

(b) if so, the details of new strategy; and

(c) the name of the States in which the new strategy is being implemented and results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of new recommendations are made from time to time for increasing productivity in different parts of the country. Some of the latest varieties/practices are as follows:

(i) Identification of GW-170 and GW-193 for irrigated low productivity regions of Central India.

(ii) HI 8381 and PDW 215 to produce durum wheats of export quality.

(iii) K-8962 to increase productivity from Diara lands of North Eastern Region of the country.

(iv) An increase of seed rate by 25% to increase productivity in the North Eastern Region.

(c) The following varietal/general recommendations made in the recent past have been adopted on a large scale in the States indicated and have resulted in higher wheat production.

(i) HUW-206, HUW-234, K-8079 in Eastern U.P. and Bihar.

(ii) PDW-215, CRNN-3004 and WH-542 in Punjab, Haryana and Western U.P.

(iii) HI 977 and HD 2501 in Maharashtra and Karnataka.
(iv) Raj-3077 in Rajasthan and HI 1077 in M.P.
(v) KRL-1-4 and RAJ-3077 in salt affected soil.
(vi) Use of 'stomp' preemergence weedicide in wheat.
(vii) Increase seed rate under broadcast sown conditions in different parts of the country.

Brackish Water Prawn Farm

3804. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposals from the States for Brackish Water prawn farm and hatchery for seeking assistance of external funding agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of action taken/ proposed to be taken thereon, project-wise; and

(d) the details of the incentives provided for such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No proposal from any State for Brackishwater Prawn Farm and Hatchery for external assistance is now pending with the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

(d) Incentives provided for such projects are dependent on the negotiated settlement made with the external funding agencies. Under the engoing World Bank assisted Shrimp and Fish culture projects, loan is provided for meeting the cost of (i) pond development; (ii) establishment of shrimp hatchery, backyard nurseries, feed mills, ice plants, individual quick freezing machinery to private entrepreneurs; and (iii) initial working capital for seed and feed.

Projects Cleared by National Cooperative Development Corporation

3805. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the new projects received and cleared by the National Cooperative Development Corporation during the last three years, year-wise and sector-wise along with the total cost of the projects and NCDC's financial support for Maharashtra in particular;

(b) the details of the projects cleard during the current year and the number of projects pending along with the estimated cost of project and financial assistance sought from National Cooperative Development Corporation; and

(c) the details of on going schemes for extending financial assistance to cooperative ventures, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The Corporation has received 5798 proposals involving a block cost of Rs. 1772.11 crores from cooperative sector in the country under various schemes during the last 3 years. Out of these, 5498 proposals/projects have been cleared involving a financial assistance of Rs. 982.02 crores from NCDC. The Sector-wise and year-wise details of projects received, cleared, etc. are indicated in the Annexure-I. (See Appendix (CLV Annexure No. 63). In so far as Maharashtra State is concerned, a total of 388 proposals involving block cost of Rs. 576.79 crores were received by the, Corporation during the last 3 years. Out of these, a total of 295 proposals with financial assistance of